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Minutes of Meeting of Board of Directors of Sierra Club, Giant Forest, Sequoia National Park, October 8, 1938

CARRYING OUT a suggestion from one of the directors of the Club from southern California made at the May meeting of the Board, this intermediate meeting held in Giant Forest proved to be an outstanding success. There were present Directors Hildebrand, Le Conte, Bernays, Robinson, Kehrlein, Starr, Dawson, Clark, Colby.

The Agreement prepared by the special committee, providing for the sale of the Club's lodge property in Santa Anita Canyon, the value of which had been largely destroyed by flood conditions early in the year, was authorized and ratified.

A communication from the John Muir Association regarding a John Muir Day to be held at the Golden Gate Exposition in San Francisco on Saturday, April 22, 1939, was read and a committee consisting of Directors Colby (chairman), Hildebrand and McDuffie was appointed to cooperate with the John Muir Association in arranging a program and other matters of policy for participation on that day.

Director Dawson reported on the practical completion of the Keller Peak Ski Hut. Mr. Dawson stated that the bulk of the money was provided from southern California and requested that \$100 additional be appropriated from the general treasury of the Club to

be added to the \$250 already authorized for that purpose by the Executive Committee. On motion duly made and carried, this additional amount was authorized and the previous action of the Executive Committee ratified. It was understood that the action appropriating \$500 for the Walter Mosauer fund for the construction of a memorial lodge was rescinded, this matter to be taken up at some later date when the construction is found feasible.

It was decided that the annual dinner be held at the Sir Francis Drake Hotel on the evening of December 3, the day of the annual meeting of the Board of Directors in San Francisco. Director Kehrlein reported that arrangements had been made for such a dinner and that announcements will be mailed in due course.

Director Kehrlein reported that he had made a careful investigation with the object of securing insurance to cover the various activities of the Club and secure it against possible claims. He had found it feasible to secure a policy covering this wide range of activities and it was ordered that such insurance be put in force. A committee consisting of Directors Kehrlein (chairman), Dawson, Clark and Bernays, was appointed to segregate the cost of this insurance equitably and

apportion it to the various activities of the Club.

Director Kehrlein suggested the authorization of mountaineering badges for those who have climbed the fourteen 14,000-foot peaks of the Pacific Coast of the United States, including Mount Rainier. The matter was referred to a committee consisting of Directors Dawson and Clark to investigate and recommend on the subject of badges generally.*

A communication was read from Mr. Charles C. Boyer, Vice President for California of the Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs, requesting the appointment of a member of the Sierra Club to act on a Committee on Conservation and also on an Advisory Committee for Public Agencies. In view of the fact that Mr. Arthur H. Blake, who is a member of the Club and adequately represents it, has recently been elected President of the Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs, it was deemed advisable to appoint no additional representative. In response to Mr. Boyer's request that the Sierra Club appoint a member to provide articles for the annual bulletin of the Federation, the matter was referred to the Editorial Board with the suggestion that that board appoint someone to furnish this material for the Federation.

The resignation of Marion R. Parsons as a director of the Club was presented to the Board of Directors and accepted with extreme regret, the Board having been informed that Mrs. Parsons did not feel physically able to continue in her capacity as director and desired that this work be done by some more active member. The Secretary was instructed to communicate to Mrs. Parsons the following resolution which was unanimously adopted:

Whereas Marion R. Parsons has been, for over 25 years, a director of the Sierra Club and has filled this office conscientiously and has consistently given the Club the benefit of

her sane and sympathetic views on outdoor conservation and has, in innumerable ways, furthered the objects of the Sierra Club;

Resolved that the Board of Directors of the Sierra Club express to Mrs. Parsons its deep and abiding regret that circumstances should have made it seem desirable that she resign her office as such director, and the Board extends to her the deep-felt wish that she still continue to aid the Club with her wise suggestions and sympathetic cooperation in the future as she has done for so many years in the past.

On motion duly made and carried, Marion R. Parsons was unanimously made an honorary life member of the Sierra Club.

Richard M. Leonard was elected a member of the Board of Directors to fill the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of Marion R. Parsons.

The Board considered with favor the issuance of a booklet explaining the purposes and history of the Club, both for information for new members and for general distribution as well. The President was authorized to appoint a committee to prepare the material under the supervision of the Editorial Board, and made the following appointments: The History of the Club—J. N. LeConte; The Local Walks—Braeme E. Gigas; Annual Outings and Other Club Trips—Richard M. Leonard; Educational Features—Oliver Kehrlein; Winter Sports—Bestor Robinson; Club Lodges—Lewis F. Clark; Conservation—Arthur H. Blake; Library and Headquarters Facilities—Alfred E. Weiler; Publications—Francis P. Farquhar and the Editorial Board; Mountaineering and Rock Climbing—Glen Dawson.

Director Kehrlein made a detailed report on the summer outing, the burro trip and the knapsack trip. He called attention to the fact that these trips had been eminently successful but suggested that knapsack trips in the future receive special attention with refer-

*Note: Any member of the Club having suggestions on this subject will confer a favor by communicating with this committee.

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President Hildebrand reported on the very satisfactory relations which the Club has had with the United States Forest Service as the result of trips in the field and meetings with officials of the service on various occasions. He called attention to the detailed report on conditions in the national forests, with special reference to the High Sierra, which had been prepared and formulated by the Club and sent to the service at its request, and commented on the fact that most of the suggestions made had received the favorable endorsement of the service. He further commented on the fact that the authority vested in the local representatives of the Forest Service in San Francisco had made it an easy and pleasant task to formulate these suggestions in close conference with local Forest Service officials. At the request of District Forester Show, the president was authorized to appoint a standing committee to confer with the Forest Service on any matters of interest which might at any time concern the Service and the Sierra Club. The president named the following Committee on Conference with the Forest Service: Directors Starr (chairman), Leonard, Robinson, the president of the Club acting *ex officio*, and also

Arthur H. Blake and Norman B. Livermore, Jr.

The President also reported on communications he had had with the National Park Service regarding the proposed Kings River National Park. He stated that such suggestions as seemed advisable had been made to the local officials of the National Park Service, and that this study was continuing. The Board endorsed the position that the president had taken in this matter as reported by him to the Board.

The subject of the future of the Sierra Club property in Tuolumne Meadows at the Soda Springs, and particularly the use of the Parsons Lodge was considered. It was deemed advisable that the matter be studied by a committee and a report made to the Board of Directors on this general subject. The president appointed Edward O. Allen (chairman), Directors Clark and Colby.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

The meeting proved so successful from the standpoint of round-table consideration of important matters affecting the Club, that the hope was expressed that future meetings be held of a similar nature in Yosemite, Tuolumne Meadows, and perhaps other places.

WM. E. COLBY, *Secretary*

Annual Dinner of the Sierra Club, December 3, 1938

The annual dinner and reunion of members of the Sierra Club will be held Saturday evening, December 3, at the Sir Francis Drake Hotel, Powell and Sutter Streets, San Francisco. The French Room will be opened at 6:30 and dinner will be served in the Empire Room at 7. While formal dress is customary, it is not necessary, and no one should have the least hesitation about coming informally if that is more convenient. There will be a friendly welcome to members of the

Club and their friends, a few brief talks, followed by dancing. President Hildebrand will preside. Arrangements are being made by Oliver Kehrlein, chairman of the dinner committee. Reservations for group tables should be made early. Tickets, at \$2.50 each, may be obtained at the office of the Club, 1050 Mills Tower, 220 Bush Street, San Francisco, and it will greatly assist the committee if tickets are obtained at least a week in advance.

High Sierra Trails

Although the summer season in the high mountains was a short one, due to the deep snow-pack, considerable trail work was accomplished by the United States Forest Service. The last link in the John Muir Trail system, up Palisade Creek and over Mather Pass, was opened for travel. The new trail closely follows the old route as described on pages 85-87 in *Guide to the John Muir Trail and the High Sierra Region*. A fine trail has been made down the east side of Pine Creek Pass in the Inyo National Forest. Important repair work and reconstruction was done on the Muir Trail at Muir and Glen passes and

on the route up Woods Creek to Rae Lake; also on the Bishop Pass Trail, Paradise Valley Trail and Shepherd Pass Trail. The severe winter of 1937-38 did considerable damage to all trails and they could not be entirely repaired in one summer. However, much was done by trail crews of the Forest Service. Some of the trails in the Tuolumne River region of northern Yosemite National Park are said to be impassable. It is to be hoped that they may be repaired in time for 1939 summer travel.

W. A. STARR, *Chairman of the High Sierra Trails Committee*

Proposed Kings Canyon National Park

President Hildebrand accepted an invitation to accompany a party including Regional Director Frank Kittredge, of the National Park Service, and Mr. Irving Brant, a special consultant of the Park Service, for the purpose of surveying territory proposed for inclusion in a new park to be known as Kings Canyon National Park. The party started at Horse Corral Creek and camped in Kings Canyon, Vidette Meadow, Rae Lake, Para-

dise Valley, and again in the canyon. Opportunity was afforded to discuss the reasons which caused the directors of the Club last spring to decline to endorse the bill for the establishment of such a park, which was introduced in the last session of Congress. These reasons, relating largely to questions of boundaries and administration, were given consideration on this trip.

Forest Service Conference on High Sierra Primitive Area Policies

Regional Forester S. B. Show recently invited members of the Club's Committee on National Forests to meet with his staff and forest supervisors concerned, to discuss recommendations made by the Sierra Club as outlined in the April 1938 *Sierra Club Bulletin*, pages 85 to 96. President Joel H. Hildebrand, Walter A. Starr and Arthur H. Blake were able to attend this meeting and it was quickly found by the representatives of both groups present that agreement could be reached on practically all the Club's recommendations except in some minor instances such as the proposed Kern Primitive Area where the Forest Service felt for the present

the region could be better classified as a Roadless Area.

Subsequent to the meeting President Hildebrand received a four page letter from Mr. Show, discussing the various topics mentioned. From this letter the following paragraphs have been extracted as being worthy of special interest.

"More important than anything else to me was the very evident fact that the Club and ourselves are thinking in similar terms of the pattern of management which will most nearly retain the native values of the high Sierras as nearly as possible unimpaired by improvements or developments. I do not re-

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* * *

“One more thing that will, I am sure, be of interest to you, especially since you suggested it, is a proposed amendment of Forest Service Wilderness Area policy or procedure. The following wording is now being considered:

“Designated wilderness areas will not be modified or reduced in size except by order of the Secretary. Notice of such proposed modifications or reductions will be published or publicly posted by the Forest Service for a period of 90 days prior to the approval of the contemplated order and if there is any demand for a public hearing, the Regional Forester or the Chief shall hold such hearing and make full report thereon to the Secretary.”

“It should be understood that this amendment to the regulations has not yet been formally adopted. As soon as the final action has been taken I will be glad to advise you.”

* * *

“Over and above detailed questions, I hope that the Club may keep a standing Committee available to discuss questions of High Sierra management with us from time to time. We want to keep active and current consultation with you in the picture and probably a small Committee of your older and more experienced members would facilitate such contacts. We have in mind, too, that an annual meeting between your committee and the Supervisors concerned is a very useful means of keeping in close touch with each other. I am sure you understand that what we want is entire freedom on your part to initiate discussions on policies or practices at any time and to keep the way open for systematic re-examination at relatively frequent intervals. Thank you again for the very much worthwhile report and for the opportunities to discuss it with you.”

Le Conte Lodge

The Lodge received the usual attention from the many visitors in the Valley during the very active season of 1938. Our door was open daily from May 15 to September 15. We are indebted to Mr. Walter A. Starr, member of the Lodge Committee, for a new lighting system consisting of parchment boxes giving a diffused light. Included in the lighting system are picturesque floor lamps placed

by the fireplace and most useful at that rather dark end of the room. The great storm of December last, in its cloudburst intensity, did no damage to our building, nor did it even scar the surrounding grounds, while a short distance away on both sides rock-burdened torrents carried coarse debris down to the road.

FRANCIS C. HOLMAN

Miscellaneous

Additional Committee Appointments: Committee on Mountain Records and Place Names—R. S. Fink, May P. Pridham, James N. Smith.

Library Committee—May Dornin, Vivian E. Gilfillan, Dorothy H. Huggins, Mary M. Myers, Rosa M. Selle.

High Sierra water color paintings by Jack Riegelhuth are now on exhibit at the Sierra Club, 1050 Mills Tower, San Francisco.

The Library Committee is preparing a card catalogue and would like to have all books which have been borrowed from the Club library returned to the Club rooms.

Survey of Ski Accidents

There are too many ski accidents and most of them can be avoided. This is the opinion of many skiers, and so in an effort to determine the underlying cause a careful survey has been started. In each case information is being obtained about the type of bindings in use, the type and condition of the snow, the length of skiing experience, and the type of skiing. The first aid management is also of interest. It is believed that a study of such data will give clues that will help to reduce the number of ski accidents. It is also a valuable check on the efficiency of the first aid now being used. Although this survey has just been started, there is an indication that too tight ski bindings may in part be responsible.

It is, however, too early to draw any conclusions and many more cases must be studied.

The cooperation of Sierra Club skiers is being solicited to make this survey complete. If you have had a serious ski accident or know of anyone who has and would cooperate in this study, please get in touch with Dr. Kimball. A questionnaire will be sent, the answers of which will be considered entirely confidential. It is only by securing considerable data that accurate conclusions can be drawn and so it is hoped that there will be many responses. Dr. Kimball's address is: H. Stewart Kimball, M. D., 1929D East 29th Street, Oakland, California.

JOEL H. HILDEBRAND, *President*

STATEMENT OF THE OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT, CIRCULATION, ETC., REQUIRED BY THE ACTS OF CONGRESS OF AUGUST 24, 1912, AND MARCH 3, 1933, of *Sierra Club Bulletin*, published bimonthly at San Francisco, California, for October 1, 1938.

State of California }
City and County of San Francisco } ss.

Before me, a Notary Public in and for the State and county aforesaid, personally appeared Virginia Ferguson, who, having been duly sworn according to law, deposes and says that she is the business manager of the *Sierra Club Bulletin*, and that the following is, to the best of her knowledge and belief, a true statement of the ownership, management, etc., of the aforesaid publication for the date shown in the above caption, required by the Act of August 24, 1912, as amended by the Act of March 3, 1933, embodied in section 537, Postal Laws and Regulations, to-wit:

1. That the names and addresses of the publisher, editor, managing editor, and business managers are: Publisher, Sierra Club, 1050 Mills Tower, San Francisco, California; Editor, Francis P. Farquhar, 1050 Mills Tower, San Francisco, California; Managing Editor, none; Business Manager, Virginia Ferguson, 1050 Mills Tower, San Francisco, California.

2. That the owner is: Sierra Club (a corporation), 1050 Mills Tower, San Francisco, California; stockholders; Officers: Joel H. Hildebrand, President, Berkeley; William E. Colby, Secretary, San Francisco; Walter L. Huber, Treasurer, San Francisco.

3. That the known bondholders, mortgagees, and other security holders owning or holding 1 per cent or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities are: None.

VIRGINIA FERGUSON, *Business Manager*.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 19th day of September, 1938.

(SEAL)

VIOLET NEUENBURG, *Notary Public*.
(My commission expires December 31, 1938.)

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